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## TREASURY FRAUDS.

## KEEN QUESTIONING OF TSANG ON-WING.

## MR. F. C. JENKIN STILL ALLEGING PARTICIPATION.

## SAFE KEYS DISCOVERY.

An intimation that he proposed to suggest to Tsang On-wing, the Treasury clerk most closely connected with the case, that he participated in the Yeo frauds, was made by Mr. F. C. Jenkin, counsel for the Bank, when he continued his cross-examination of the witness, in the claim by the Government for the re-crediting of \$260,000.

Sir Henry Gollan, the Chief Justice, asked counsel if he was definitely charging Tsang On-wing with complicity in the Carvalho Yeo frauds, and Mr. Jenkin replied that he would allege that the writing and other circumstances pointed to only one conclusion.

In the course of the morning, the jury asked to be allowed to see the keys of the Treasury safe in which the reserve cheque-book was kept. On examination, it was said that one of them had been made locally, and that possibly others had been made at the same time.

## WHAT TSANG SHOULD HAVE DONE

The early part of to-day's cross-examination of Tsang On-wing centred round letters which were sent from the Treasury to the bank at various times and in reply to questions Tsang On-wing said that it was part of his duty to draft letters regarding queries arising between the Treasury Department and the Bank.

Mr. Jenkin:—It was your duty to draft letters regarding stale cheques?

Tsang replied in the affirmative after it had been explained that a stale cheque was one which had not been paid in for some time after it had been drawn.

### Extremely Careful?

Mr. Jenkin:—In all these matters which fell to you to attend to, you were extremely careful—when you have to put on record matters as between the Treasury and the Bank?—Yes.

Why did it not occur to you to draft a brief letter to the bank with regard to the discovery of the shortage in the cheque book, so as to clear up the matter and be sure that your conclusion that there was a mistake was well founded?—At that time I thought it was not necessary to trouble the bank. I thought they had sent cheques short.

I put it to you that if you entered the view you say did that in the ordinary course you must at least have sent a brief clip to the bank and made the matter clear. You don't agree with that?—No.

I put the same to you with regard to the other cheque book—that you should have straightened the thing out with the bank and made sure that your assumption was well founded?

### Less Importance.

Tsang did not understand the question and on it being put in another form said that since it was the second occasion he thought it was of less importance than the first.

There was a third man in addition to yourself and Cheung who was sometimes engaged in filling in cheques?—Yes, Chow Wah-sang.

Did you ever discuss the altered covenants with this man?—No.

Mr. Messer and Mr. Black frequently during this period came up to your desk in the ordinary course of the Treasury routine?—Yes.

In reply to other questions Tsang said that he was arrested along with Cheung and they were charged two days later. Perverting to the matter of applying for new cheque books, witness was shown the application forms for books from which cheques were extracted and said that when application was made he had several forms in his drawer.

### Two Forms.

Counsel asked how that was if there was only one application

## PRINCE'S MISSION FULFILLED.

### GARTER PRESENTED TO EMPEROR.

### BRILLIANT CEREMONY AT IMPERIAL PALACE.

### GORGEOUS DISPLAY.

Tokyo, May 3. Clad in full-dress cavalry uniform and seated beside Prince Chichibu in a State Coach drawn by four horses, the Duke of Gloucester, third son of His Majesty the King, set forth from the Kasumigaseki Palace at ten o'clock this morning on his way to the Imperial Palace, there to confer on His Imperial Japanese Majesty, the highest order of British knighthood, the Most Noble Order of the Garter.

Behind him followed a number of two-horse carriages, conveying the members of his Suite and members of the Japanese reception committee, all in brilliant uniforms, while a further touch of colour was added to the cortège by the detachment of lancers acting as escort.

### Famous Bridge.

Entering the Palace grounds by the famous Nijubashi, a fine old bridge in a picturesque setting of towering grey stone walls crowned with aged Japanese pine trees, snarled and twisted into fantastic shapes, the procession halted, and the Prince and his companion descended from their carriages.

A chamberlain, who was there to meet them, thereupon conducted them to a hall of waiting, where they rested while the other British and Japanese officials who were to be present at the Garter ceremony assembled in the Throne Room where it was to take place.

### Brilliant Assemblage.

Amongst this brilliant assemblage were the Imperial Princes and other members of the Imperial Household, the British Ambassador with the principal members of his staff, holders of the Grand Order of the Chrysanthemum, the naval and military chiefs, the Premier, the President of the Privy Council, the Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, Ministers of State and other high officials. These were all drawn up in two lines to the right and left of the Throne facing inwards and, glittering with gold braid and brilliant decorations, presented a striking spectacle.

Punctually at 11 o'clock, the Emperor, attired in the uniform of Generalissimo of the Japanese armed forces, entered the Throne Room, attended by the Grand Master of Ceremonies, the Grand Chamberlain, his principal A.D.C. and others, and mounted the Throne, while all present stood in silence with their heads bowed towards him.

### Unseen Band.

Then an unseen band struck up "God Save the King," very slowly and impressively, as Prince Henry, Duke of Gloucester, and his suite were seen coming down a corridor leading to the Throne Room.

Each member of the Suite in turn advanced slowly and solemnly towards the Throne and, after bowing deeply before it, stepped back a few paces to the right and halted facing inward.

Last of all came the Duke of Gloucester himself.

Halting before the Throne, he read a message from the King, asking the Emperor to accept the insignia of the Garter, this message being then rendered into Japanese by one of the chamberlains.

This done, the Prince with great solemnity presented the autograph letter which he had brought from his royal father, King George, and after another bow, stepped back a few paces, whereupon the Emperor, addressing Prince Henry, expressed his thanks for the courtesy of the British monarch in conferring this honour upon him and sending it by the hand of his own son. Then the main ceremony took place.

### Main Ceremony.

Mounting the steps leading to the Throne, the Prince, kneeling with one knee on a cushion, solemnly adjusted the Garter on the left leg of the Emperor, who

## GOOD TWO-HOURS' RAINFALL.

### MORE THAN FOR THE PAST TWO MONTHS.

### MUCH MORE NEEDED.

More rain fell in two hours in Hongkong this morning than for the whole of April and March. The total was 2.71 inches, and all fell between 6 and 8 a.m.

During these two hours, there was a very steady downpour, with the result that, despite the long drought which has been experienced, low-lying areas both on the Island and the mainland became temporarily flooded. This was particularly noticeable at Happy Valley, where at 8 o'clock there were large patches of the turf under water.

The total fall for March and April was only 2.045 inches, whilst for the six months from October to March inclusive it was 3.390 inches or only 1.12-inch than was registered in two hours this morning.

This morning's fall was extremely welcome but, of course, it will need very much more rain before there can be any question of removing the present restrictions. It was stated last week in this connexion that fully 10 inches of rain would be needed to have any real effect on the situation.

Including this morning's, the total rainfall for the year now comes to 5.73 inches, which compares with an average of 12.32 inches.

The Botanical Gardens return for April, just to hand, shows that 1.22-inch of rain fell during the month, this being spread over eight days.

Whilst the water is being cut off daily from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. in other parts of the Colony, it is reported that the Peak is enjoying a full supply. Editorial reference to this point will be found on Page 6.

### BRITISH BOXING CONTESTS.

### NEW LIGHTWEIGHT TITLE HOLDER.

London, May 2.

At the Albert Hall to-night in a heavyweight boxing contest over fifteen rounds, Phil Scott, the British champion, defeated Doctor Ludwig Haymann, the German champion, on points after a poor fight.

In a contest for the British lightweight championship, the second important item on the programme, Fred Webster, formerly a famous amateur and holder of three amateur championships at different weights, captured the title in his first leading professional match.

The holder, Sam Steward, put up a gallant fight, but was soundly beaten on points over fifteen rounds.—Reuters.

### THE "DISCOVERY."

### ROYAL VISIT TO FAMOUS VESSEL.

London, May 2.

The Duke and Duchess of York and Prince George visited the ship this afternoon and inspected the Royal Research vessel "Discovery."

Their Royal Highnesses were conducted over the ship by Sir Douglas Mawson, the leader of the expedition to the Antarctic, for which the "Discovery" is now being recommissioned.

Mr. Amery, Dominions Secretary; Sir Granville Grylls, High Commissioner for Australia; and a representative of the High Commission for New Zealand were also present.—*British Wireless*.

### HOME FOOTBALL RESULTS.

### BLACKBURN & BURNLEY SHARE POINTS.

London, May 2.

In the First Division of the English League to-day, Blackburn Rovers, playing at home, drew with Burnley, each side scoring once.

In the Third Division (South) Watford received a severe setback, losing at Norwich to the City team by five goals to two.—Reuters.

## THE K.O.S.B. FRAUD ALLEGATIONS.

### PROTEST BY ACCUSED'S COUNSEL.

### ADJUTANT WHO DOES NOT "RUN THE BATTALION."

### TO-DAY'S EVIDENCE.

Mr. D. L. Strellett, counsel for Corporal Charles Hendry, of the K.O.S.B., who is charged with the embezzlement of sums amounting to \$1,300, the property of the P.R.I., had occasion, at the resumption hearing of the District Court Martial this morning, strongly to object against the Judge Advocate, Mr. Somerset Fitzroy, for not taking notes.

Mr. Strellett was cross-examining Captain A. G. Dobble, the Adjutant of the K.O.S.B., and enquired of the Judge Advocate whether he was taking notes, for the matter was very important.

The Judge Advocate replied that he was not, whereupon Mr. Strellett said:—Then I must strongly object.

As a result, all the questions which Mr. Strellett had put to the witness were repeated, and the Judge Advocate noted the statements made.

### For P.R.I. Employment.

Captain Dobble produced certified extracts which showed that the accused was struck off duty in December, 1926, for employment in the P.R.I., and that his successor, Sergeant A. Bardell, was appointed in November, 1928. As Adjutant, he was President of the Corporals' Mess and payments amounting to \$80 were made to the P.R.I. in 1928.

Cross-examined by Mr. Strellett, witness stated that the payments were regular, but the Corporals' Mess was in arrears. He was not responsible for appointments in the P.R.I., and neither were the appointments made on his recommendation. He had nothing at all to do with the appointments except the drawing up and signing of the orders.

Mr. Strellett questioned witness regarding the phrase "shall be struck off duty for employment."

Witness replied that it meant would not do any parades or guards and would be solely responsible for his employment as clerk in the P.R.I.

### No Instructions.

Is he given any instructions when he takes up that employment?—I don't think so;—not by me, anyway.

Is he given any instructions as to what his duties will be?—Not that I know of.

Is he considered to be on duty?—Most certainly.

How are his duties defined?—By the P.R.I.

Mr. Strellett here stated that the last reply was most important and asked the Judge Advocate if he was taking a note.

The Judge Advocate replied that he was not, and the cross-examination of the witness recommended.

Does the appointment carry any pay?—I don't know, I have never been in that position.

Do you know that the accused also acted mess clerk to the officers' mess?—That is quite possible.

How many persons have been appointed to do the work of the accused?—Sergeant Bardell and two assistants. I don't agree that the three are doing the work of the accused.

They are in the P.R.I. office. Whether they are doing their work or not I don't know.

### Don't Run Battalion!

Who appoints the P.R.I.?—How do I know? I am only the Adjutant of the Battalion. I am not the Colonel. I don't run the Battalion.

Private J. W. Grier, of the K.O.S.B., was the next witness. He stated that he was in charge of the billiard table at the recreation centre and that all the monies he received from the men playing billiards he handed to Corporal Hendry, again initials, every Sunday. There was only one entry which had not been finalised.

He dispassionately considered the position of Italy could have thought it proper to have asked more of Italy than we did ask.

Lord Birkenhead agreed that we had paid and were paying the United States on a scale which the late Mr. Bonar Law had hardly exaggerated in describing as a scale which would effect our

## THE BALFOUR NOTE.

## IMPRESSIVE DEBATE IN HOUSE OF LORDS.

## LORD BIRKENHEAD ON ASSET OF BRITISH CREDIT.

## AN HISTORIC GESTURE.

Strongly condemning Mr. Philip Snowden for his talk of repudiation of the Balfour Memorandum, in which Britain undertook to demand no more of the Allies than she is required to pay America, Earl Birkenhead addressed the House of Lords at some length yesterday on the subject of war debts.

He described the Balfour Note as the most generous offer made by any country in the history of the world, and warmly defended its principles.

Its moral effect, he declared, had enabled Britain to recover from the damage of the war, and

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#### THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

#### THREE MILLION DOLLARS FOR ABERDEEN RESERVOIR.

#### FIRE FIGHTING.

Several important matters were discussed at yesterday's meeting of the Legislative Council.

Police Recreation Ground.

Hon. Mr. J. P. Braga asked the following questions:

(a) Will the Director of Public Works inform the Council whether in the scheme of Town Planning for Kowloon any site, and where, has been earmarked for a recreation ground for the growing number of members of the Police Force stationed at Kowloon and the subordinate staff in the service of the Government?

(b) If no such site has been marked out as yet, will the Government consider the advisability of forthwith making a suitable reservation of Crown land, both as regards area and location, for recreation purposes for the above-mentioned members of the Civil Service residing at Kowloon?

The Director of Public Works replied:

(a) Apart from the parade ground at the Police Training School no area has been specially earmarked as a recreation ground either for the Police Force or for the subordinate employees of Government residing at Kowloon.

(b) The Town Planning scheme for Kowloon makes provision for the reservation of several areas for recreation grounds and Government proposes to develop these as and when funds can be made available. The Government has decided to appoint a Committee under Chairmanship of the Colonial Secretary to review the provision at present existing for playing fields in Hongkong and on the mainland, to consider what provision is required for the future and to make recommendation in the matter.

#### FIRE ESCAPES.

#### The Efficiency of the Local Brigade.

Hon. Mr. J. P. Braga asked:

(a) Without implying any reflection on the personnel of the efficient and hard-working staff of the Fire Brigade, is the Government satisfied with the up-to-dateness and completeness of the appliances and equipment for life-saving in the event of another outbreak of fire like that of the King Edward Hotel in the small hours of the 11th March?

(b) Are the rescue-ladders of a sufficient height to reach the top floor of the tallest building in the Colony when any inmates are entrapped therein in the case of a fire?

(c) If not, will the Government take immediate steps to provide the Fire Department with a sufficiency of all appliances (including jumping-sheets) necessary so as to avert the recurrence of a disaster and to minimize, as far as practicable, the loss of lives such as happened in the King Edward Hotel?

(d) Will the Government cause an immediate inspection to be made of all the large buildings and offices in the Colony—e.g., Prince's, Alexandra, and similar buildings—to ascertain if—

(i) fire exits are provided on every floor therein;

(ii) there are indicators showing the way to the exits and lighted in red by night, in the same manner as is done in theatres;

(iii) that the passages along these exits are made easily accessible and kept free from obstructions at all times?

(e) If no powers exist to compel the enforcement of the requirements stated in clauses (i), (ii) and (iii) of the foregoing question, will the Government frame and introduce early legislation with a view—

to amend the Building Ordinance so as to invest the Build-

ing Authority with statutory powers enabling him to call upon the owners of buildings of the type mentioned in Question (d) to make adequate and ample provision for fire-exit in such buildings, and to permit of their regular inspection by officers appointed by the Government;

to require that the main staircase of buildings designed for use as hostels and groups of offices shall be built of fire-proof material?

(f) Will the Government consider the advisability of compelling holders of Hotel Licences to fulfil the requirements set out in Question (d) and to install automatic electric fire-alarms, or other mechanical contrivances for effectively raising alarms upon an outbreak of fire, in their premises?

Colonial Secretary's Reply.

The Colonial Secretary replied:

(a) The Government is satisfied that the life-saving apparatus and equipment of the Hongkong Fire Brigade are thoroughly up to date except the motor turnable ladder which is seven years old, and is 68 feet in height. It is to be remembered that this appliance is primarily a water-tower, to be used as such by members of the Fire Brigade, and can only occasionally be used for life-saving purposes, in circumstances requiring extreme care and considerable skill. The Government has taken note of the suggestion in the finding of the Jury at the Inquest into the fatalities in the King Edward Hotel that an improved water-tower should be obtained and the matter is now under consideration. The cost is considerable and may amount to as much as \$30,000 for one machine.

(b) No. The longest manual fire escape in Hongkong is 55 feet in height, which is the largest made. The largest mechanical Fire Brigade ladder or water-tower manufactured so far as is known is only 85 feet in length and there are many buildings in the Colony with stories above this height. It is one of these water-towers which is referred to in the answer to the first part of the Honourable Member's question.

(c) With the exception of the improved water-tower already referred to, the Fire Brigade has all the equipment recognised by the London Fire Brigade as life-saving apparatus. Certain other appliances such as rocket lines have been under careful consideration but are not considered to be of practical value.

Inspection of Buildings.

(d), (e) & (f) Power of inspection of buildings by the Building Authority exists, but the necessary staff to make immediate inspections such as are suggested in the Honourable Member's question is not available. Inspections were actually made by Fire Brigade Officers of 982 buildings during 1928 and advice given. The more difficult questions are those of the policy of enforcing a more modern interpretation of section 149 of Ordinance No. 1 of 1903 in the case of buildings erected prior to the enactment of that section in 1903, and of the power to enforce such an interpretation in the case of buildings which have been certified as complying with Ordinance No. 1 of 1903. This subject has

from time to time engaged the attention of the Government and it is now a matter for consideration whether the interests of the public should not outweigh the hardship to owners of property. In view of doubts as to the legal position fresh legislation would be necessary amending section 149 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance and enabling modern safety requirements to be made enforceable in the case of all buildings irrespective of age and prior certificates. The Government is not yet satisfied that drastic legislation of this kind is called for. It will be realized that the enforcement of such legislation would render necessary the reconstruction of much of the house property at present existing in Hongkong.

Stricter Views.

Under the Law as it has existed since 1903, all buildings with floors more than 40 ft. above the

level of the street are required to be provided with such means of escape in the case of fire for the persons dwelling or employed therein as the Building Authority may reasonably require, in accordance with section 149 of Ordinance 1 of 1903. This requirement has been regularly enforced since 1903 but opinions have varied from time to time as to what is reasonable, much stricter views having prevailed in recent years. The Building Authority now consults the Chief Officer, Fire Brigade, before expressing satisfaction under section 149.

The section further requires any means of escape so provided to be maintained to the satisfaction of the Building Authority; but insufficiency of staff has prevented regular inspections from being carried out, to see that this part of the section is observed.

Certain classes of exceptional buildings such as Hotels, Cinemas, Schools, etc., have for some years past been required by the Building Authority to have special protection against fire even though of a less height than those referred to in section 149. The Government is now considering whether similar safeguards should not be required in respect of all buildings of more than two stories.

It must be remembered that the plans of the King Edward Hotel were approved in 1902 and the building was certified in 1905 when less stringent views prevailed than those now enforced.

With reference to the detailed suggestions in paragraph (f) of the Honourable Member's question regarding Indicators, Electric Fire Alarms, etc., these suggestions are receiving the consideration of the Government; but it is probable that legislation will be necessary before they can be insisted upon in the case of buildings already certified.

#### Improvement Suggestions.

Hon. Mr. W. E. L. Shenton asked:

1. What steps have been taken by the Government to carry out

the report of the Committee appointed to consider suggestions for the improvement of the fire-fighting organisation of the Colony, which was laid on the table of the Legislative Council on the 27th May, 1927?

2. If steps have already been taken, what further steps does the Government propose to take?

The Colonial Secretary replied:

1. In matters of personnel and equipment the recommendations of the Committee referred to have been generally adopted and either have been or are being carried out with certain minor exceptions, the chief of which is that the Government considered it best to retain the Captain Superintendent of Police as Chief Officer of the Fire Brigade.

As regards construction, it has

not yet been possible to provide

funds for the suggested main Sta-

tion in Kowloon but the site re-

ferred to is earmarked for the pur-

pose. Temporary sub-stations ex-

ist in the Eastern and Western Di-

strictions of Victoria but the per-

manent buildings have not yet been

erected for want of funds. The

Shaukiwan sub-station has not yet

been provided, but a hand-trailed

motor-pump is installed at Shauki-

wan Police Station.

The relaying of the water mains

and fixing of pedestal hydrants is

being undertaken on annual votes.

As regards legislation for the

purpose recommended by the Com-

mittee, namely to give the Governor

in Council power to make regula-

tions in regard to the prevention of

fire, escape from, and extinction of

fires, the matter was referred to the

Attorney General, who advised that

legislation was necessary, but that

the drafting of the Ordinance

should await the formulation of

the regulations to be made thereunder.

The matter was then referred to the

Chief Officer of the Fire

Brigade, but owing to the great

difficulty of compiling practicable

regulations, the matter has made

slow progress. Draft regulations

regarding places of Public Enter-

tainment, Garages and the Storage of inflammable liquids were recently submitted to the Government, together with a draft bill enabling these regulations to be put into effect. Further consideration of these draft regulations was postponed pending the finding of the Coroner's enquiry into the King Edward Hotel fire.

The regulations already drafted are receiving consideration and the preparation of further regulations is being considered by the departments concerned.

#### BEREDEEN WATER SCHEME Council Decide on Construction of New Reservoir.

The Colonial Secretary:

Sir—I rise to move the resolution standing in my name, viz.

"That this Council approves the carrying out of the Aberdeen Water scheme set out in Sessional Paper No. 10 of 1927, at an estimated cost of \$2,702,000 and the expenditure of \$655,000 during the current financial year, the cost to be met by a future loan and meanwhile to be charged as an advance from the surplus balances of the funds of the Colony."

The details of the scheme are fully set out in Sessional Paper No. 10 of 1927 and it is therefore unnecessary for me to take up the time of the Council with a detailed description of the scheme which it is estimated will provide an additional 2.12 million gallons of water a day. Suffice it to say that it appears to be the last remaining practicable scheme for any large increase in the storage of water on the Island of Hongkong without almost prohibitive expenditure. I

think it will be generally admitted especially in view of our unplea-

sant experience during the long

drought, which unfortunately still

continues, that, whatever water we

may be able to bring across from

Kowloon we ought to have avail-

(Continued on Page 11.)

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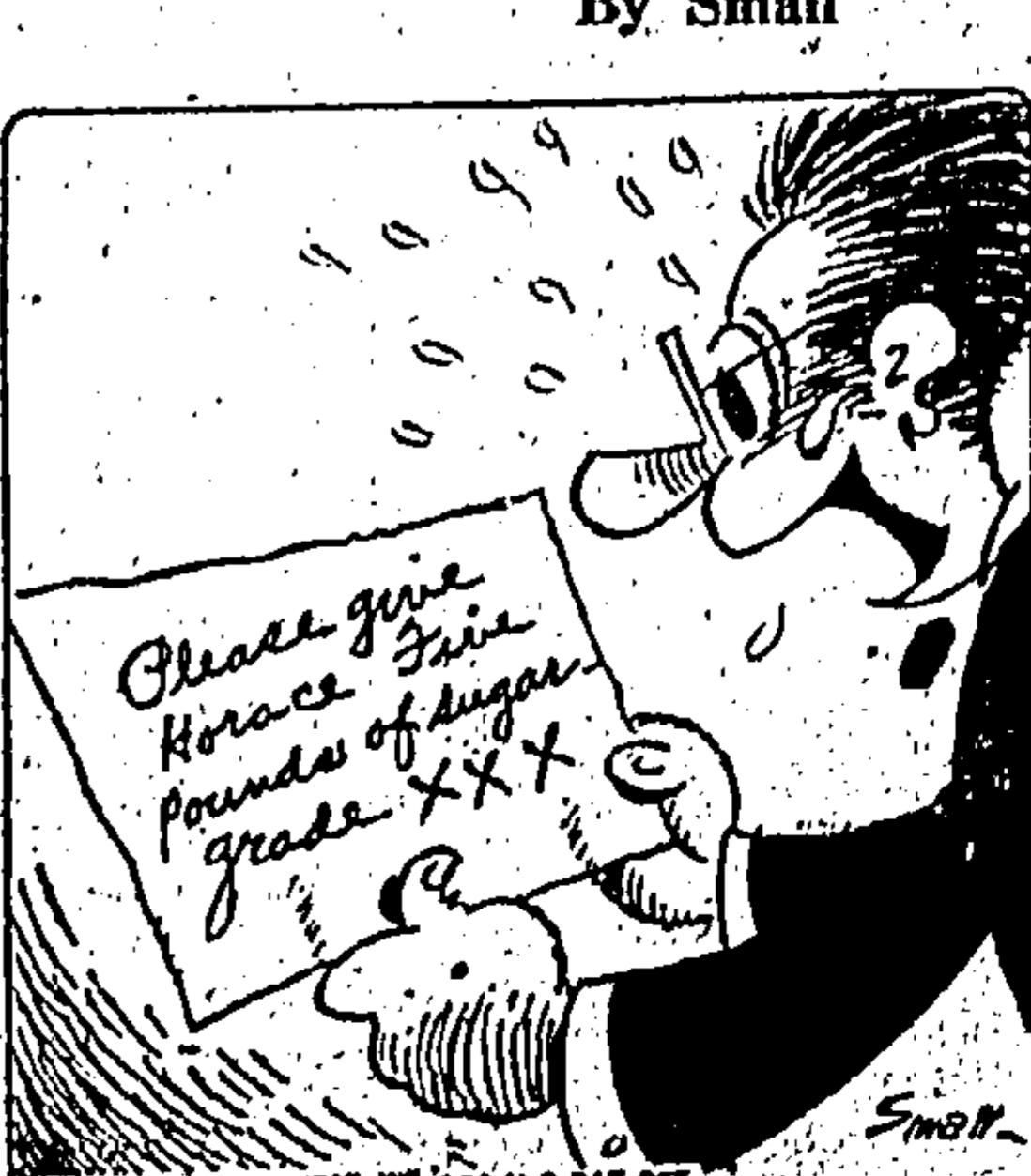
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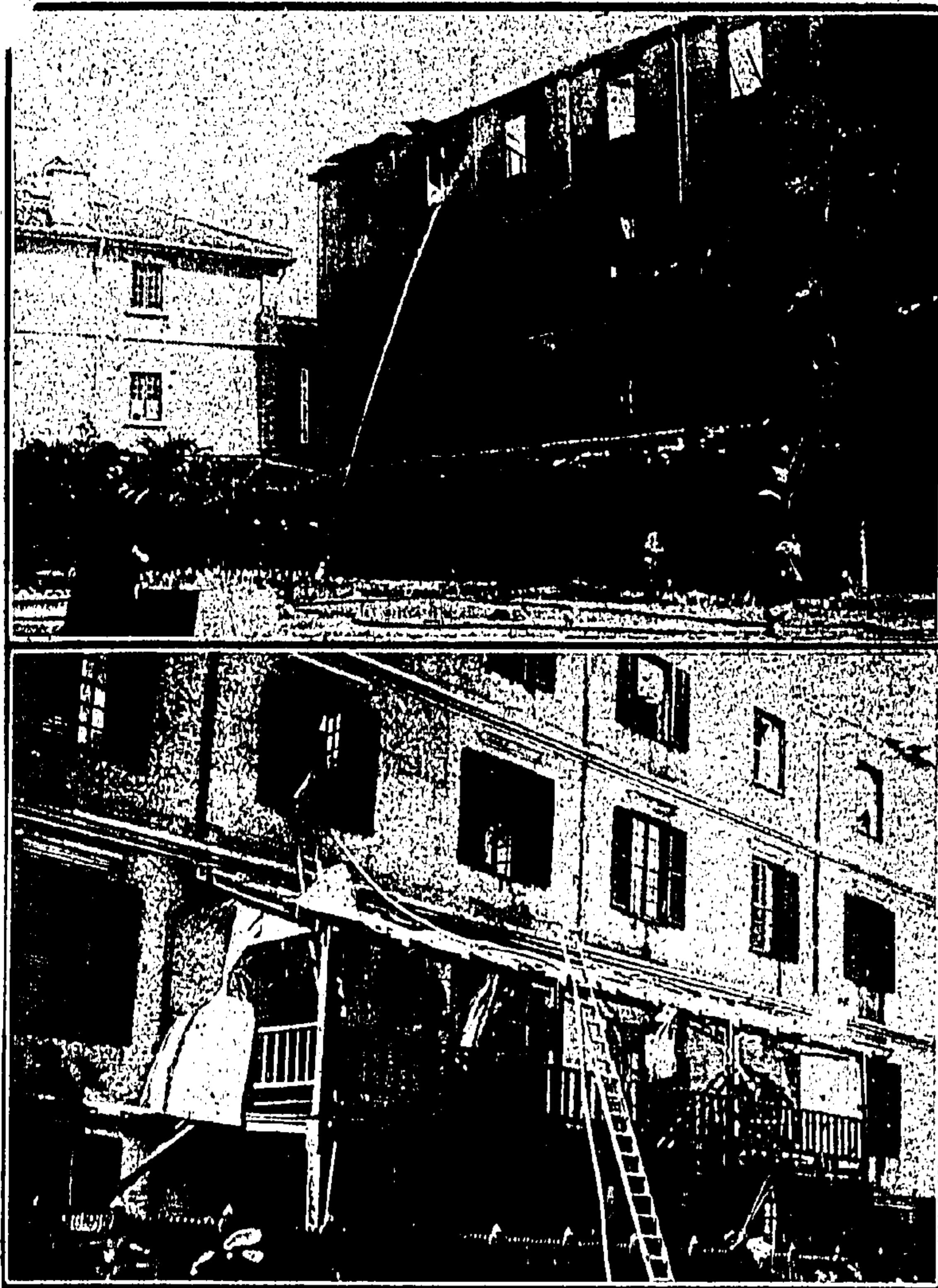
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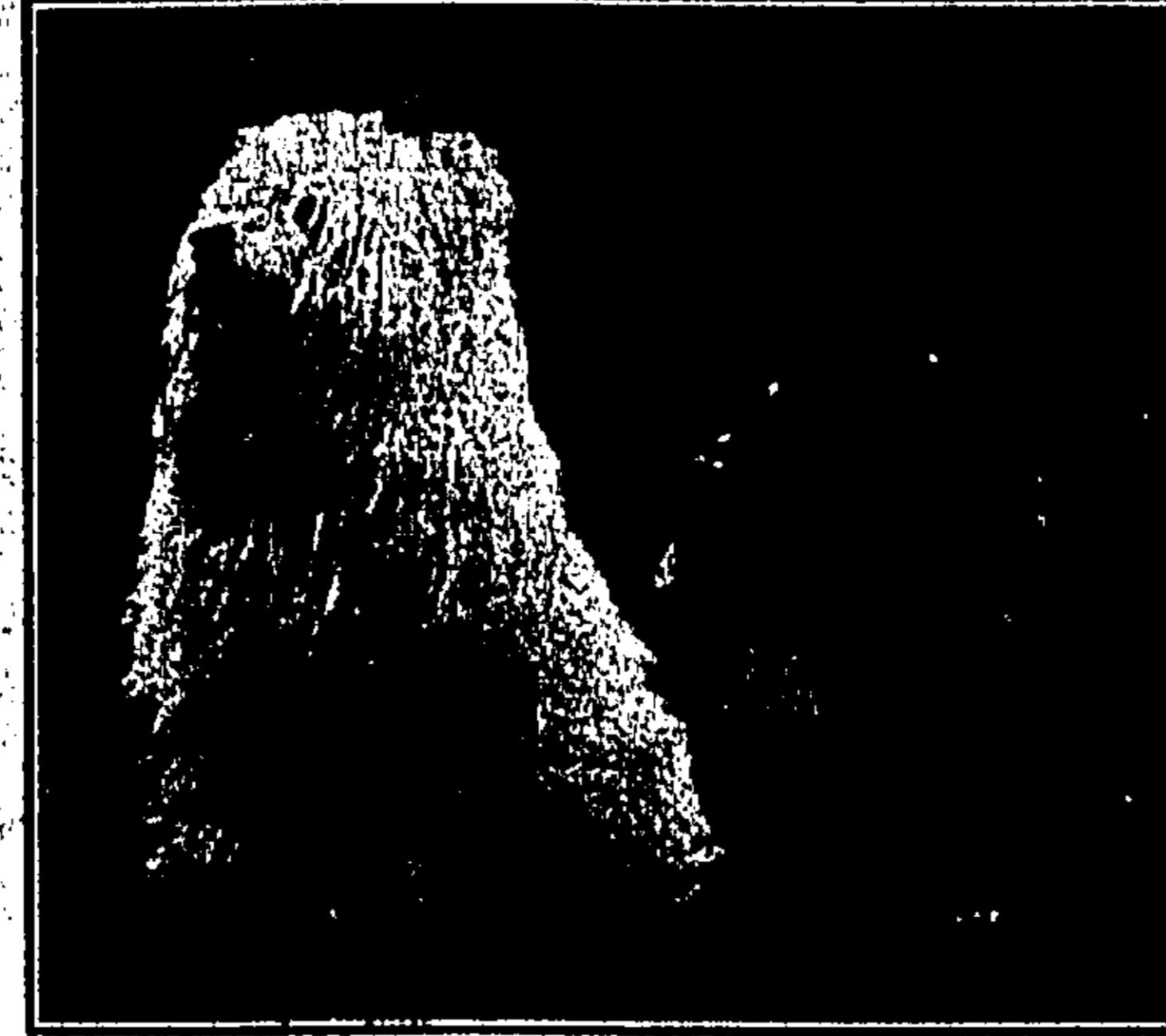
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The serious fire which broke out at Siccawei Convent last week caused the occupants to flee for safety as the flames gutted half the building. These pictures show the burning building, and the Fire Brigade fighting the flames.



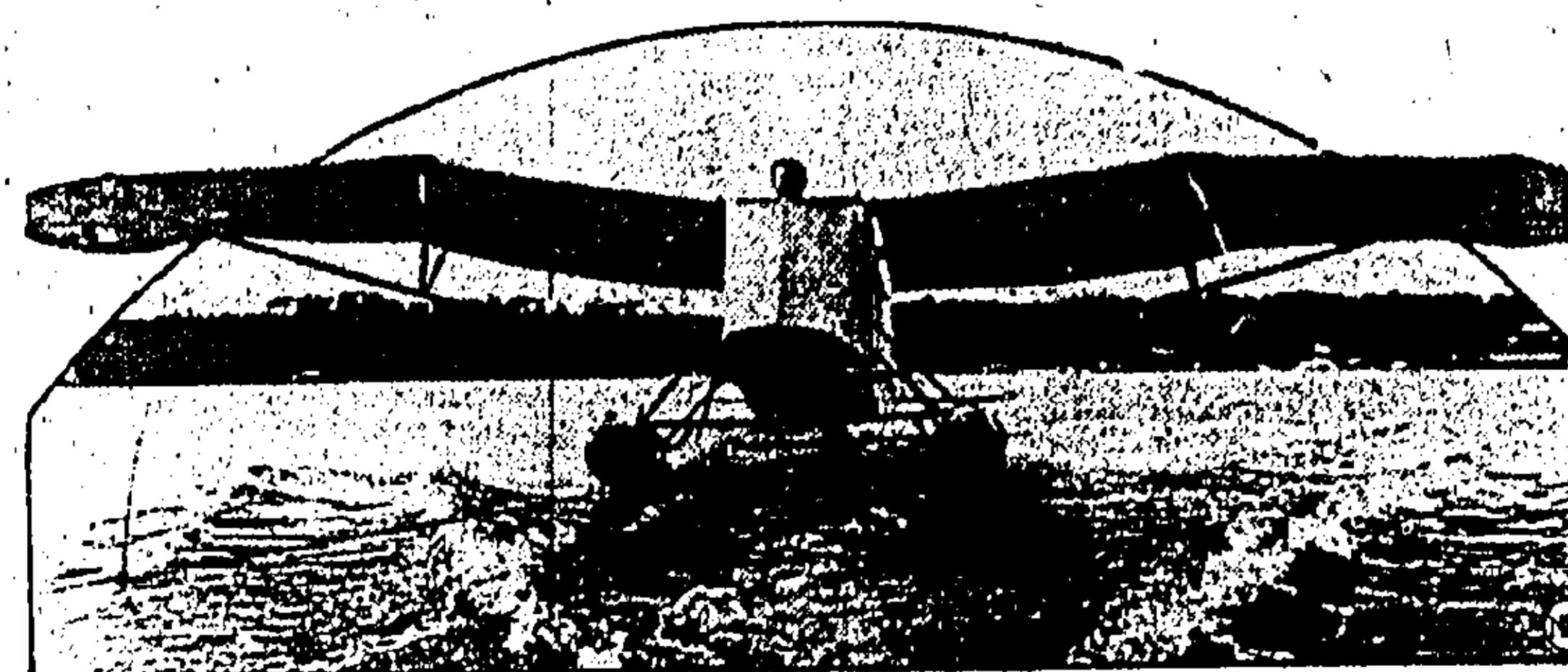
A charming picture of two interesting and bright little Shang-hai canines.



Major Sir H.O.D. Segrave receiving a trophy from Vice-President Curtis for his wonderful land speed record achievement.



Photo taken at Vienna during the recent cold spell, showing devotees of a new health cult indulging in their chilly sport.



A motorless German glider, which is to attempt the English Channel soon. The photo was taken near Berlin.

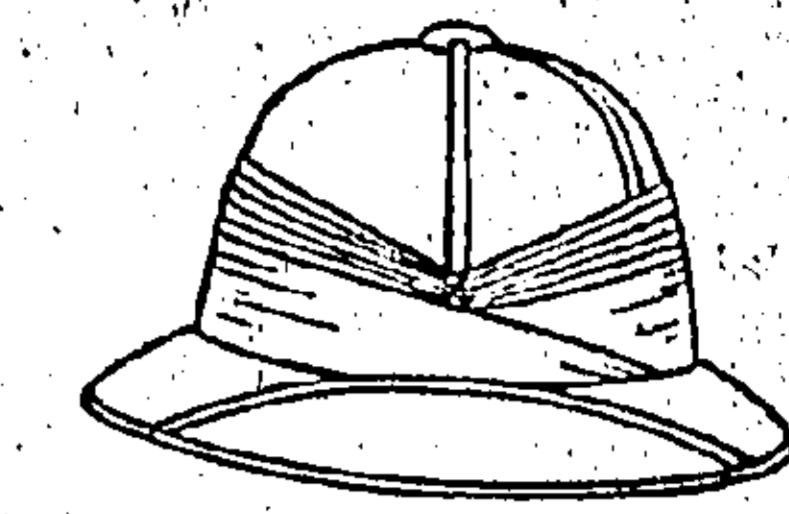


Japanese cherry trees in full bloom, but taken along the Potomac River, Washington. Left to right are Madame Debuchi, Mr. Masaru Debuchi, the Japanese Ambassador, and their daughter and son.



Floods fed by sudden heavy rains and melting ice caused millions of dollars damage and temporary disaster to scores of Alabam cities recently. The pictures above show two principal streets.

## FOR SURE PROTECTION



### HAWKES HELMETS PITH SUN HATS

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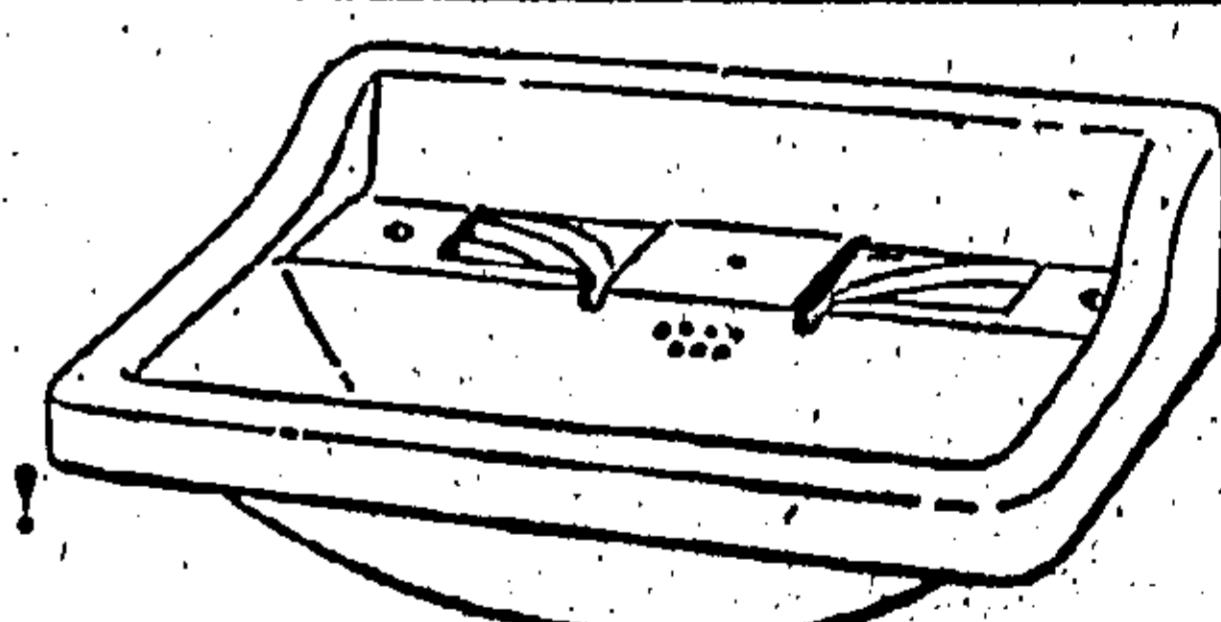
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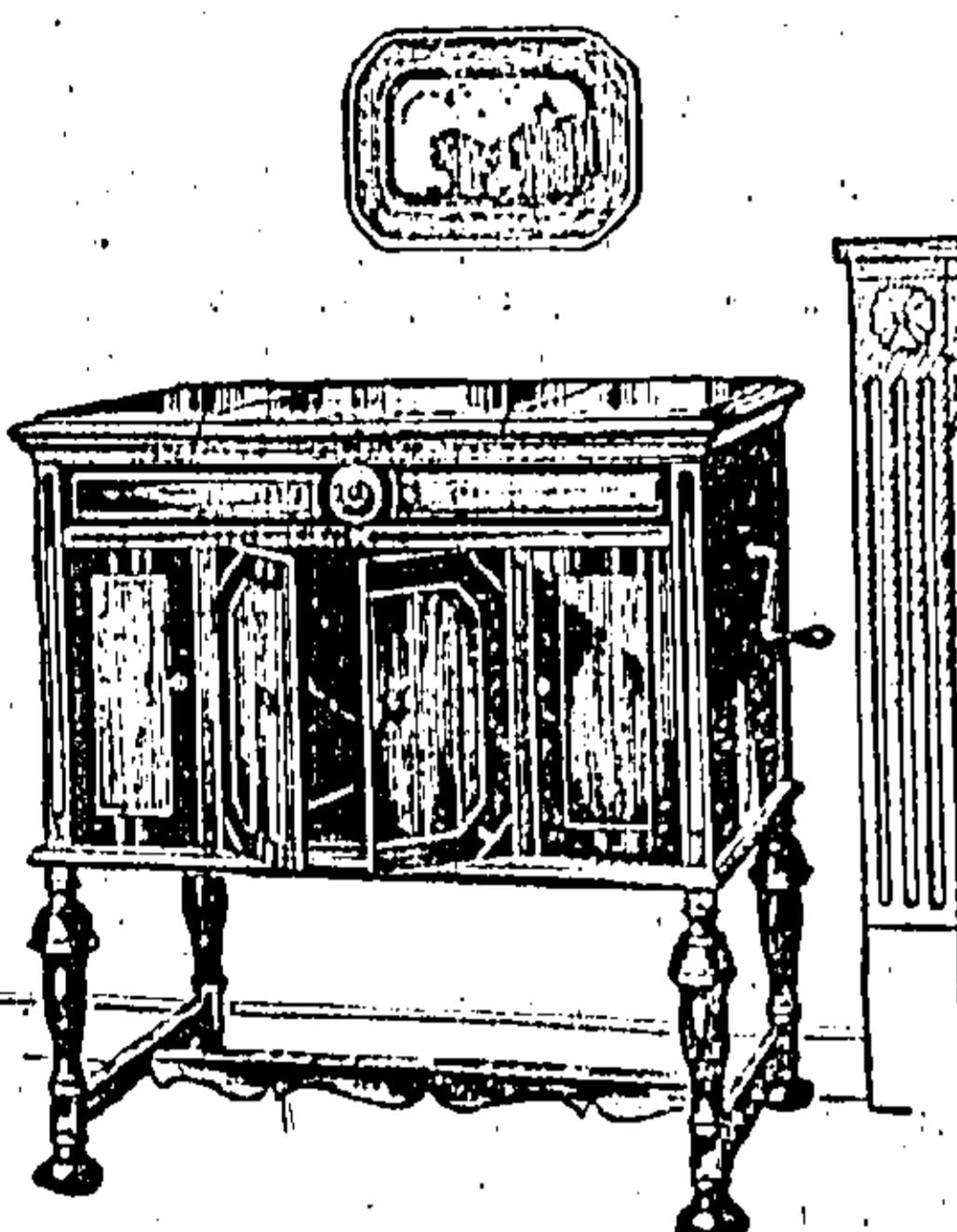
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The  
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FRIDAY, MAY 3, 1929.

### FIRE DANGERS.

In the sense that they indicate that action of some sort is to be taken to minimise fire dangers in the Colony, the replies to questions asked by Mr. Braga and Mr. Shenton at yesterday's meeting of the Legislative Council may be considered reassuring. An analysis of the answers, however, makes it obvious that there has been a good deal of remissness in Government circles in the past, not only in regard to the leisurely manner in which the recommendations made two years ago have been dealt with, but also in the failure to see that the existing law is observed. On the former point, the matter of new regulations was, we are told, referred to the Attorney General who advised that legislation was necessary, but that the drafting of the Ordinance was allowed to await the formulation of regulations to be made thereunder. Eventually, the matter was passed on to the Chief Officer of the Fire Brigade, but, owing to the great difficulty of compiling practicable regulations, "the matter has made slow progress." It certainly has, seeing that the Committee reported as long ago as May, 1927.

Coming now to the suggested inspection of all large buildings and offices in the Colony, the Government asserts that the necessary staff to make immediate inspections is not available. This, we must confess, is a surprising confession. The number of buildings of the type which Mr. Braga had in mind when putting the question is not abnormally large, and we cannot see that very much time would be required to ascertain whether exits are provided, whether there are indicators showing the way to such exits as are provided, and whether passages are kept free from obstruction. We venture to suggest that if such an inspection were made, it would be found that many of these buildings, some of the modern ones amongst them, would be found to be inadequately equipped. It was, indeed, given in evidence at the King Edward Hotel Inquiry that many of these blocks of buildings are virtual death-traps. That being the case, we cannot understand the Government's disinclination to cause a thorough investigation of the whole situation. Section 149 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance is apparently of doubtful application to certain buildings, and it appears that fresh legislation would be necessary to amend it so as to enable modern safety requirements to be made enforceable in the case of all buildings, irrespective of age and prior certificates. The point involved is whether the interests of the public should now outweigh hardships on owners of property. The Government is not satisfied that drastic legislation of the kind indicated is called for. On this issue, we quite appreciate the fact that such legislation, if strictly enforced, would render necessary the reconstruction of much of the house property existing in Hongkong. That is the kernel of the problem. The fact is, of course, that risks have now to be run because of past Government laxity. In this connexion, we are told that opinions have varied as to what is reasonable in the way of provision of fire escapes, but that much stricter views have prevailed in recent years. That smacks rather of attempting to pass the blame on to previous Government officials.

What we should like to know, however, is if the Government seriously suggests that it cannot henceforth undertake regular inspection of buildings to see that the existing law, such as it is, is being obeyed? The Building Authority as such may not have the staff, but surely some provision could be made to cope with the matter. What is the use of making laws if it becomes no-one's business to see that they are obeyed? Another point which has been suggested to us is that there are many blocks of flats and tenement houses built within relatively recent times without adequate fire-escape provision. If that is the case, who is to blame? The really old property is admittedly a problem, because wholesale reconstruction is out of the question. However, on this matter, as on the question of the big office blocks, it would be absurd for the Government merely to fold its arms and do nothing. The least that can be done is to clear up any misconceptions in the existing law, and enforce reasonable requirements, with due regard to the type of property involved. If staff inadequacy makes enforcement impossible, then staffs must be increased, for human life is more precious than money.

### Water Discrimination.

This morning's welcome rain, probably the heaviest fall of the year, should serve to increase the quantity of water in the Colony's storage reservoirs, though not to an extent which would justify a removal of the newly imposed restrictive measures. The most rigid economy, we are prepared to believe, is still most essential and the Hon. Mr. H. T. Creasy's earnest request for the co-operation of the public in preventing waste has lost none of its point, in this direction at least. Facts are coming to light, however, which rather suggest that if the Water Authority is securing the co-operation for which he asks, he is getting a great deal more than is honestly deserved. The notice issued last month warning residents of the proposals in the absence of adequate rainfall, announced that the water supply in Kowloon and Hongkong would be cut off daily between the hours of 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. from the 1st May. Had this notice been carried out in the spirit and the letter, residents would readily resign themselves to the small amount of hardship imposed, and say no more, but we are definitely assured that this is not the case. Although Kowloon supply was cut off on the night of April 20th, the Peak District still enjoys a full service, a flagrant case of seeming discrimination against which the strongest protest is scarcely adequate. Such a state of affairs is grossly unfair to the rest of the Colony, and particularly to Kowloon, which, it is likely, has sufficient supplies to maintain full service for some months even if the Government is already robbing Peter to pay Paul. And Kowloon's complaint does not end here. Experiences in different parts of the Peninsula have been slightly different, but in some cases it has been impossible to obtain water from 6 p.m. one evening until 3

am. The E. and A. Company's a.s. Aralura is due here from Moji on Sunday.

The B.I. a.s. Tanda is due here from Manila, with the Australian mails, on Sunday.

Yesterday's health return shows two cases of typhoid (one Indian and the other Chinese), as well as one Chinese case of cerebro-spinal meningitis.

The Colonial Secretary advises that quarantine restrictions have been imposed here on all arrivals from Shanghai on account of cerebro-spinal meningitis.

The Ben Line a.s. Bencranchan from Home and Straits ports is due here on Monday, when the s.s. Benvorlich from Home, Straits and Phillipines ports is also due.

Convicted on a charge of assaulting a woman at a street water fountain, a Chinese shop folk was fined \$10, or 14 days' hard labour, by Mr. T. S. Whyte Smith at the Kowloon Magistracy this morning. The defendant was further ordered to sign a bond for his good behaviour.

The Hon. Mr. J. P. Braga has kindly consented to distribute the prizes to the successful competitors at the conclusion of the Sacred Heart College fifth annual athletic sports on Saturday at the Kowloon Football Club Ground. The half-mile race open to the Colony, entrance free, post entry is timed to take place at 3.30 p.m.

A fine of \$10 was imposed by Mr. T. S. Whyte Smith, at the Kowloon Magistracy this morning, on a Chinese who was convicted of a charge of assaulting a woman who was stated to have been in a certain condition at the time of the assault. Detective Inspector Fallon said the woman, who had been in hospital since April 21, was now completely out of danger. His Worship informed the defendant that he had no right to strike a woman, no matter how angry he had been.

Mr. Nalin was appointed acting Agent for the Messageries Maritimes in Hongkong.

Local architects reported to the Sanitary Board on the proposed amendment of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance. They criticised the powers invested in the Head of the Sanitary Department and the transferring to the Building Authority powers previously held by the Sanitary Board.

There was a spirited debate in the Legislative Council on the amended Health and Buildings Ordinance, but the measure passed its second reading.

Mr. James Clark was appointed Acting Secretary of the Hongkong Club.

At the inquest on the late Mr. A. H. Ronne, general manager of the Hongkong Milling Co., held before Mr. J. H. Kemp with Messrs. J. C. Gow, J. H. Seth and T. Hunter as jurors, a verdict of suicide whilst of unsound mind was returned.

From 6 p.m. the next afternoon, while others have been more fortunate and discovered a trickle coming through in the middle of the morning. The Government is tackling its problem in a most unsatisfactory manner and the sooner a sense of responsibility to the whole Colony, and not to a favoured few, in the guiding principle, the better. Incidentally, it is probable that more water has been wasted in the past three days than in any similar period for months. The storage of water in bath-tubs overnight, and the pulling of the plug on the following day when the supply is resumed; the water which finds its way down street drains when queues of people with kerosene tins rattle their way to the street fountains; these are much more dangerous sources of waste than leaking taps. The rainy season is, of course, approaching rapidly, and the Government, no doubt, hopes to blunder through somehow.

### DAY BY DAY.

PEOPLE TALK OF THE GLORIOUS ARDOURS OF YOUTH. RUBBISH! COMPARSED WITH YOUR CYCLO OF TWENTY, SIMON, LIVING ON ROOTS, WAS A SWEET AND PLEASANT FELLOW TRUST.—John A. Stewart.

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## MOSCOW MAY DAY FAILURE.

PLOT SUCCEEDS ONLY IN GERMANY.

UNPLEASANT SCENE IN THE REICHSTAG.

FRENCH PRECAUTION.

Berlin, May 2.—Since the serious rioting in the Pankstrasse and elsewhere last night, Berlin has been quiet, and the authorities are not apprehensive of further outbreaks on any large scale.

The scene during the street fighting last night is more easily imagined than described. The mob, appeared to be mad for some time. The official casualty list gives the number seriously wounded or injured as 80; it is believed that a large number of rioters were badly hurt, apart from those picked up and sent to hospital.

Nearly 200 to be Tried.

The police effected over 900 arrests, and at least 175 of these have been detained and are to be charged with resisting the authority of the State and with disturbing the peace.

Three policemen were killed and more than twenty-five injured.

A socialist newspaper to-day remarks: "Moscow must be satisfied with the zeal of the German Communists, who obeyed their orders to resist the police and caused the blood-bath they desired."

Reichstag Incident.

The tension developed was revealed in the Reichstag to-day when the Communist members of the House created an unpleasant scene at the opening because their demand for a debate on yesterday's happenings was refused.

The Communists launched a bitter attack on the Government afterwards leaving in a body singing the Internationale and calling out "Down with the murderers!"—Reuter.

French Measures.

Paris, May 2.—The strong measures adopted by the Paris police to prevent the threatened disturbances on May Day were shown by the official information that over 3,500 suspected Communists were placed under arrest and detained for the day.

Over 3,000 were released early this morning, and later in the day, except for a few wanted on other offences, the majority of the remainder were set free.

Only five foreigners and eight Frenchmen have been detained as a direct outcome of yesterday's arrests.—Reuter.

Moscow Fails.

London, May 2.—Moscow's agitation to create serious May Day trouble throughout Europe seems to have been frustrated everywhere, except in Germany. Here and there untoward incidents have occurred, but generally authorities have maintained control of the situation.

In England there was no sign of disturbance, and in most other countries, no trouble was experienced.

Reuter's correspondents throughout Europe indicate that police mobilisation in the various capitals yesterday was on the biggest scale ever known. The Police opened fire at Kovno and a number of Communists who defied the ban against demonstrations were reported killed. The death roll at Berlin is very likely to be increased as about a score are in hospital in a desperate condition. Nineteen were injured in rioting at Kappenberg (Styria).

A Geneva Demonstration.

While the Soviet delegates were attending the discussions of the Disarmament Committee yesterday morning, two of their employees, who are Genevese Communists, headed a demonstration of Communists who tried to induce workers to leave the factories, and also demonstrated at the Italian Consulate until dispersed by the police.

The Soviet Delegation has disclaimed responsibility for their acts.—Reuter.

In America.

New York, May 2.—Ten thousand people demonstrated in Union Square at the first officially sanctioned Labour Day parade since the war. There was no disorder.—Reuter's American Service.

Fresh Outbreak.

Berlin, May 3.—There has been a renewal of the Communist rioting here, and so far one person has been reported killed and five seriously injured.—Reuter.

## CHINESE FESTIVAL SEQUEL.

SERIOUS OVERCROWDING OF VESSELS.

EXEMPLARY FINES.

Although two vessels have been leaving every morning for Chekwan during the Leung Ma Festival, the demand for accommodation has been more than the vessels can offer. The result is that those who could not obtain accommodation on these steamers have had recourse to launches and junks as a means of conveyance to this popular place of worship.

Launches and junks have therefore done a roaring trade during the last few days, and even cargo boats, which are not allowed to carry passengers, have undergone the risk of arrest in order to earn a few dollars.

The masters of several junks were brought before the Hon. Commdr. G. F. Hole, R.N., at the Marine Court this morning, the charges against them being either for carrying an excess of passengers or for carrying passengers contrary to the conditions on their licences. His Worship took a serious view of all the offences and heavy fines were imposed on all.

"If a man obtains a special privilege and starts abusing it, he deserves to get all that's coming to him," said his Worship in a case in which Ho Kam-shing, the master of a cargo boat, was charged with committing a breach of conditions of his licence by carrying passengers. His Worship found that the defendant had a special permit to leave for Chekwan, but one of the conditions in the permit was that defendant was to carry no passengers.

A fine of \$100, or three months was imposed.

Had 200 Passengers.

Cheung Wab, the master of a cargo boat, was charged with the same offence, carrying no less than 220 passengers.

Inspector Andrews, who was in Court, asked his Worship to take a serious view of the case. The defendant was stopped, said Insp. Andrews, by Mr. Hillier, of the Harbour Office, at 8.20 a.m. yesterday and was sent back to Yaumati. Despite Mr. Hillier's order, the defendant did what he had set out to do as soon as Mr. Hillier was out of sight. He was arrested by the police at 3.30 p.m. with 220 passengers on board.

Mr. Hillier, continued Insp. Andrews, had already taken out a summons against the defendant, but in view of the fact that as the police were prosecuting, the summons taken out by Mr. Hillier had been withdrawn.

His Worship intimated that the maximum penalty was \$100 and he could not fine defendant more than that amount.

Insp. Andrews:—Will your Worship deal with his licence?

Commdr. Hole:—Refer this to the Harbour Master, will you please?

Defendant was fined \$100, or three months' hard labour.

The masters of two trading junks were brought before his Worship for carrying excess of passengers, 19 more than the number allowed in one case, and 64 in the other. The one who carried 19 passengers in excess was fined \$20, while the other defendant, in view of the number he carried in excess, was fined \$65.

Two masters and one mistress of cargo boats appeared on the charge of committing a breach of conditions of their licences by carrying passengers. The woman's boat carried 64 passengers and she was fined \$80; one of the two masters whose boat carried 36 was fined \$45; and the other, whose boat carried 37, was fined \$40.

## DETECTIVE STABBED IN LIP.

### SUSPECT ALSO WOUNDS PEDESTRIAN.

Viewing with suspicion the presence of a group of three men in Canton Road, Kowloon, last night, a Chinese detective held them up with the intention of searching them.

One of the suspects suddenly whipped out a knife, and stabbed the detective in the upper lip, inflicting a rather serious wound. He then turned the weapon on a Chinese pedestrian who had come to the aid of the detective, and inflicted a cut which, fortunately, was only superficial.

In an official report issued this morning, the information is given that one of the suspected men was arrested while endeavouring to get away from the spot. The detective has been admitted into hospital.

## DEATH OF SIR G. BUTLER.

### WELL-KNOWN POLITICIAN PASSES AWAY.

### IN NURSING HOME.

London, May 2.—Sir Geoffrey Butler, Member of Parliament for Cambridge University, died in a London Nursing Home to-day. He recently announced that because of illness he would not stand at the coming election.

In the present Parliament, Sir Geoffrey had been Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Minister for Air. He founded Cambridge University Air Squadron.—British Wireless.

On Ceylon Commission.

The late Sir Geoffrey Butler had sat as a Conservative for Cambridge University since 1923. At the last election, when there were three candidates for two seats, he was second on the poll, with 4,026 votes, the unsuccessful candidate being Mr. J. R. M. Butler, M.V.O. (Independent), who polled 3,241 votes.

It is interesting to note that the deceased was one of the three prominent British politicians appointed in 1927 to draw up a new Constitution for Ceylon.

He was educated at Clifton and Trinity College, Cambridge (Major Scholar). He has been identified with the famous University for many years past. He won the Chancellor's Medal for English verse in 1908, and was President of the Union, 1910; Editor of the Cambridge Review, 1910; Syndic of the University Library, 1920; Prelector in Diplomatic History, Corpus Christi College, since 1920; Occasional lecturer before the University of Pennsylvania, 1913-14; Drexel Institute, 1918; and Examiner Historical Tripos, 1915-22.

With Balfour Mission.

During 1925 he was temporarily employed on important work in the Foreign Office, and accompanied the Balfour Mission to the United States of America in 1917. During 1917-19 he was Director of the British Bureau of Information in America. In 1921 Sir Geoffrey was appointed President of the Cambridge University Conservative Association, and two years later was elected to the Council of the Royal Historical Society. He was Chairman of the Committee on Air, O.T.C.s, in 1925; and was a member of the Home Office Committee on Legal Aid to Poor Persons, which sat during the same year.

His publications include "The Tory Tradition," published in 1914; "Handbook to the League of Nations," 1919; "Studies in Statecraft," 1920; "Historical Manuscripts in the Library of Corpus, Cambridge," 1920.

FOOTPADS HOLD UP WOMEN.

INCIDENT ON TAIPU ROAD.

Two Chinese women, who were returning home from a visit to Shatin, were held up by robbers on the Taipu Road yesterday.

It is stated that they were overtaken at the 5½ milestone by two men, who, threatening them with a knife, forced them to go up the hillside, where they were relieved of their trinkets and a small sum of money.

The total haul did not amount to more than \$5.

JAPANESE REACH A SETTLEMENT.

Hankow, May 2.—It is understood that the incident which gave rise to the anti-Japanese boycott, the killing of a coolie by a Japanese motorcyclist, has been settled. Compensation is to be paid and the boycott declared off.

WARSHIPS IN PORT.

WHERE THEY ARE MOORED.

The following is the disposition of warships in port to-day.

North Wall Basin.—H.M.S. *Titania* and submarines.

South Wall Basin.—H.M.S. *Snowdrop*.

North Wall Dock.—H.M.S. *Cornwall*.

In Dock.—L15, L20, H.M.S. *Marazan* and *Poet Chaucer*.

No. 1 buoy.—H.M.S. *Hermes*.

No. 8 buoy.—H.M.S. *Brace*.

No. 10 buoy.—H.M.S. *Seraph*.

No. 11 buoy.—H.M.S. *Scooby*.

H.M.S. *Sterling*.

No. 12 buoy.—H.M.S. *Sirdar*.

H.M.S. *Somme*.

No. 13 buoy.—H.M.S. *Serapis*.

H.M.S. *Thracian*.

No. 23 buoy.—U.S. gunboat *Guam*; French *Argus*.

FATAL MOTOR BUS MISHAP.

AT THE MAJESTIC

NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

MASSAGE HALL

MRS. S. UZUNOYE

Export Massages

67, Queen's Road C, 2nd floor.

RADIO WE STOCK ALL SPARES

INCLUDING SHORT WAVE EQUIPMENT.

COMPLETE SETS

BEST MAKES LOWEST PRICES

NOTE THE ADDRESS

THE UNION STORE,

37, Des Voeux Road.

POWELL'S

10, Ice House Street.

Sun Helmets

In reliable qualities.

Included are such makes

as Hawkes, Tress, Charles

Owen etc.

Pith Helmets

that are guaranteed

Waterproof as well

as Sunproof

Prices range from \$7.50 to \$20.00

Less 10% discount for Cash.

Drop in & Hear these Victor Records

19854—Traumore (Roverie) (Schumann)

Evening Song (do)

19876—What'll I do... Marcheta (do)

19881—Soldiers' March (Schumann)

March (Hollander)

March (Tschalikovsky)

March (Gluck)

19882—Gnomes, Dwarf (Reinhold)

Fairies (Schubert)

Clowns (Mendelssohn)

19923—Oh Vermland Thou Loveliest (do)

The Music Box (do)

20037—Two Guitars. (Russian Gypsy Song)

Black Eyes (do)

20074—Cherie, I Love You (do)

Burgundy (do)

20080—Sailing, Sailing and Sweet and Low, Funicula, Funicula and Santa Lucia (do)

20121—Rustle of Spring (do)

Narcissus (do)

20169—Minuet in G (do)

Amaryllis (do)

20176—Eleanor (do)

Out of the Dust to You (do)

20105—Spring Song (do)

COMING!

KING VIDOR'S  
MIGHTY PRODUCTION**THE CROWD**

With

ELEANOR BOARDMAN, JAMES MURRAY  
COMING SOON TO THE**QUEEN'S THEATRE**

WATCH OUT FOR OPENING DATE!

**WORLD THEATRE**SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT  
FOR 4 DAYS ONLY

Commencing

**SUNDAY NEXT****WONG WON SANG**

and Company

CHINESE MAGICIANS

A SERIES OF MYSTIFYING ILLUSIONS

Daily at 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 &amp; 9.20.

Usual Prices.

**STAR THEATRE  
TO-NIGHT**

At 9.15 p.m.

SIGNOR CARPI'S

**ITALIAN GRAND OPERA  
COMPANY**

DIRECT FROM MILAN

**75—ARTISTS—75**The biggest combination of stars ever in the East  
FULL ORCHESTRA, CHORUS & BALLET

To-night	<b>"LA BOHEME"</b>
May 3	
To-morrow	<b>"AIDA"</b>
May 4	
SUN MAY 5	<b>GALA CONCERT</b>
MAY 5	THE MOST POPULAR SOLOS, DUETS, TRIOS ETC. OF THE OPERAS WILL BE SUNG BY THE LEADING ARTISTS OF THE COMPANY
MON MAY 6	<b>"TALES OF HOFFMAN"</b> FAREWELL PERFORMANCE
	BOOKING AT MOUTRIE'S AND THEATRE Prices \$4, \$3, \$2 & \$1.

GAY KEE,  
Sanitary Merchant & Engineer.  
DAVID HOUSE, Hongkong.**U.S. BASEBALL.****RESULTS AND LEAGUE POSITIONS.**New York, April 27.  
To-day's baseball results were as follows:

National League.

R H E

Cincinnati	7	12	1
St. Louis (1st game)	2	7	3
Cincinnati	3	7	3
St. Louis	7	9	1
Philadelphia	8	11	1
Brooklyn	8	7	1
Chicago	8	15	1
Pittsburg	7	14	0
Boston	5	10	0
New York	4	10	4

American League.

R H E

New York	9	10	1
Philadelphia	1	14	3
St. Louis	1	10	2
Detroit	10	17	0
Washington	3	8	0
Boston	2	7	0
Cleveland	1	5	2
Chicago	7	12	1

Yesterday's results were as follows:

National League.

R H E

Philadelphia	5	5	2
Brooklyn	7	8	1
Boston	4	6	1
New York	2	5	1
Chicago	1	11	3
Pittsburgh	6	8	1
Cincinnati	2	4	2
St. Louis	9	17	0

American League.

R H E

New York	2	6	1
Philadelphia	5	11	0
Boston	2	6	0
Washington	1	8	0
Cleveland	11	20	1
Detroit	5	12	3
St. Louis	7	8	0
Chicago	3	9	0

League Standings.

The League tables now stand thus:

National League.

R H E

Team	W. L.	Pt.
Boston	5	2
St. Louis	6	4
Chicago	5	4
Philadelphia	4	5
Pittsburgh	4	4
New York	3	3
Cincinnati	3	6
Brooklyn	3	6

American League.

R H E

Team	W. L.	Pt.
New York	4	2
Philadelphia	6	3
St. Louis	5	4
Detroit	6	5
Cleveland	5	5
Boston	3	4
Chicago	3	5
Washington	3	5

Fanling Golf.

STARTING TIMES FOR  
SUNDAY.

9.28 a.m.—K. S. Robertson and A. E. Lissaman.
9.32 a.m.—G. E. Mitchell and F. M. Ellis.
9.36 a.m.—E. D. Black and J. K. Shaw.
9.40 a.m.—L. Yates and E. Stone.
9.44 a.m.—M. G. Mills and J. H. Fox.
9.48 a.m.—J. Fleming and A. H. Hitchie.
9.52 a.m.—R. Young and Comdr. Brown.
9.56 a.m.—T. L. Christie and E. D. Lawrence.
10.00 a.m.—H. Speer and D. J. Gilmore.
10.04 a.m.—J. S. Dykes and W. A. Weight.
10.08 a.m.—C. G. Stark and A. T. Lay.
10.12 a.m.—A. O. Brown and E. J. Edwards.
10.16 a.m.—E. P. Fletcher and J. S. McLaren.
10.20 a.m.—H. D. Brown and P. Jacks.
10.24 a.m.—W. C. Clark and S. S. Perry.
10.28 a.m.—J. P. Heard and B. J. Lecon.
10.32 a.m.—H. G. Geare and C. T. Fowle.
10.36 a.m.—R. K. Hepburn and A. Humphreys.
10.40 a.m.—J. W. Alabaster and A. P. Bungey.
10.44 a.m.—H. R. Sturt and H. G. Hegarty.
10.48 a.m.—A. Leach and T. S. Whyte-Smith.
10.52 a.m.—Major Beamish and D. G. G. MacDonald.

League Tennis.

CHINESE R. C. TEAMS FOR  
TO-MORROW.The following players will represent the C. R. C. in the Tennis League matches on Saturday.  
"A" Division against Craingewower on home ground, commencing at 4 p.m.—sharp.—Ho Ku-lau (Active Captain), Yew Man-kit, M. K. Lo, C. Chon, Lu Tak-cheuk, Lai Kwong-tsun.  
"C" Division against Civil Service on Civil Service Cricket Club's ground, commencing at 4 p.m.—Chiu Tsun-chiu (Captain), W. C. Hung, Kwok Po-kan, Lu Tak-lam, Lau Man-kwong.**TREASURY FRAUDS.**

(Continued from Page 1.)

you had again made an error?—Yes.

And you stepped across to Mr. Black's desk and did not even show him the book?—No.

Mr. Jehid went on to question witness with regard to the altered numbers on the cheque book covers and agreed that if the numbers had been altered by the bank it would only have been necessary to alter the three last numbers. It did not strike him as peculiar that all five figures had been altered, neither did it strike him that a much more simple method of crossing the figures out instead of altering them could have been adopted.

Mr. Jenkins.—You still say that you thought that alteration was done in the Hongkong Bank?—Not now, of course. I did at the time.

Safe Key Discovery.

Questioned with regard to the safe keys, witness said Mr. Mouza had a key and he had another one.

The jury expressed a desire to see the other key and this was fetched from the Treasury, the members of the jury examining both keys. They expressed the view that one of the keys had been made locally. The foreman addressed His Lordship, who, in turn, informed counsel that it was passing through the jury's mind that if one key had been made locally others might have been made at the same time.

In reply to a question from the jury Tsang said that within his time the key of the safe in the Treasury had never been lost.

Dealing with routine cheques witness said that when making cheques he left a certain number in the book for salaries, pensions and matters like that so that the numbers would be consecutive.

Mr. Jenkins.—They being routine cheques and being left in a book would they be signed by Mr. Black and Mr. Messer for you to fill them in?

A Blackboard.

After informing His Lordship that the latter part of his cross examination would deal with what he alleged was Tsang's participation, Mr. Jenkins went on to deal with witness's handwriting, producing a large blackboard on which witness wrote examples of various letters.

In reply to questions he said that his formation of certain letters was invariable. He never made a square "Z" and never made a "K" in the form in which it appeared on the Min Tak cheque.

Witness was handed a counterfoil and cheque, both of which he admitted filling in.

Mr. Jenkins pointed out that the counterfoil was written in witness's own handwriting, but described the writing in the body of the cheque as "peculiar."

"Schoolboy" Writing.

Witness explained that he was trying to do "schoolboy's" writing.—At the time I was not very busy.

Witness agreed that he could have practised such writing on a piece of paper instead of a Treasury cheque, but denied he was trying it to see if it would get past Mr. Messer.

Witness said he could give no other reason beyond the fact that he was not busy.

Witness agreed that he wrote another cheque dated Sept. 7 and agreed that he had used an entirely different "P" from his usual form.

He said he had no reason for doing this and it was done quite unconsciously.

It may be the purest coincidence, but that date was five days after Carvalho Yeo opened his first banking account!—I don't know.

In another genuine cheque, witness denied having made a block "Z" into a tail "Z" which he said was his usual writing, on January 17.

Witness said he knew that the passbook would come back from the Bunk on January 17 and that it would be instrumental in discovering the frauds, but he denied that he made the block "Z" unconsciously and turned it into a tail "Z" when he realised the passbook was coming back.

I put it to you it is at least curious that they are referable

## DETECTIVE THRILLER!

## THE BLACK PIGEON.

By Anne Austin.

## CHAPTER XXII.

"Miss Lester," McMann called to Ruth, who was hanging up her hat and coat, "you're familiar with Borden's letter files, of course. Wish you'd go through them and bring me every letter you can find that contains a threat of any kind. A promoter of his ilk is bound to have made bitter enemies and I don't want to overlook any bets. Also, bring me his cancelled cheques for the last year. If he has been paying blackmail to anyone, I'd like to know it."

"Yes, Mr. McMann," Ruth agreed eagerly. She was grateful for any task that would keep her mind off Jack Hayward's almost inevitable arrest. And her respect for the detective increased. He was not letting the blackness of his case against Jack Hayward make him indolent or careless in opening up new avenues of investigation. A detective—McMann; not just a third-degree bully, as she had feared.

A few minutes later she entered Borden's private office, which the detective had made his own, and laid two bulky folders before him. "Mr. Borden, when I first came to work for him, told me he received many blackmail and death-threat letters from ruined investors, and instructed me to file all that I found in his mail in this folder. He pretended to laugh at them, but I'm sure he was afraid. I think he had a private detective or some sort of bodyguard."

McMann, obviously impressed, opened the folder and began to rifle through the odd collection of letters it contained. "That so? What gave you that impression, Miss Lester?"

"A big, uncouth-looking man, whom Mr. Borden called Jake—I never heard his last name—was in and out of the offices frequently, and Mr. Borden always saw him," Ruth answered angrily. "And if a new threat had been received in the mail, Mr. Borden always called for the folder when Jake made his next visit. Frequently also, when Mr. Borden was still in his offices when I left, I saw Jake hanging around in the hall, as if waiting to protect Mr. Borden. At least, that is the only explanation I could think of."

McMann frowned in intense concentration. Then: "Did this Jake have a key to the offices, Miss Lester?"

Ruth shook her head. "I don't know. I don't know anything else about him at all. Of course I never asked Mr. Borden any questions, and he never volunteered any information."

McMann left the room, apparently to give instructions to Detective Birdwell in the outer office, then returned and began to study the letters again, frowningly. "Nothing recent here," he said at last, closing the folder, "but of course I'll put a man on this job. Something may turn up, but I doubt it. Now let's see these cancelled cheques. You checked his bank statements for him, I suppose?"

"Yes. It was difficult for him to make an entry on the stub, and when I questioned him about a blank stub in an effort to keep the record straight so that he would not overdraw, he would say, 'Oh, I don't know! Two or three hundred, I guess. Just charge it to 'cash.' Sometimes he drew as much as two or three thousand dollars out of the bank in a single week."

"Any cheques to women?" McMann demanded.

"Only to Mrs. Borden," Ruth told him.

"So 'Handsome Harry' was no woman's fool," McMann approved, smiling crookedly. "Any charge accounts for his lady friends?" Again Ruth shook her head. "No, not in his name at least. But from what he said to Rita Dubois on Saturday I gathered that he had given her letters to the credit managers of several shops. I imagine the accounts were to be opened in her name, with his name as guarantee of payment, but of course I can't be sure."

"Just one of the little points that Rita can clear up for us," McMann commented dryly. "By the way, how long had Borden's affair with the dancer been going on?"

"I don't think it had really begun," Ruth answered honestly. "From what I overheard between them on Saturday and from what Mr. Borden said after Rita had left."

"What did he say?" McMann interrupted sharply.

"Something about they all fall sooner or later, and that he liked them when they weren't too easy," Ruth answered, flushing. "He met Rita Dubois at the Golden at noon. She has a sick child. No slipper about three weeks ago, no danger of her blowing . . .

## AMERICAN STOCKS.

## CABLE QUOTATIONS FROM NEW YORK.

The following quotations as at the close of the market on Thursday have been received from their correspondents, Messrs. Hayden, Stone and Co., of New York by Meers, Swan Gilbertson and Fritz, Sassoan House, Shanghai, (cable address "Swanstock" Shanghai), who are not responsible for cable mutilations. These quotations are subject to confirmation:

	Price.
Anacoda Copper	144 144
Bethlehem Steel	133 112
Chrysler Corp. (Common)	95 94
Goodrich B.F. (Common)	86 84
Granby Consolidated Copper	83 82
International Cement (Common)	91 90
Liggett and Meyers "B"	88 88
Missouri Pacific (Common)	84 84
Nevada Consolidated Copper	51 52
Packard Motor Car (Common)	136 134
Radio Corporation of America (Common)	107 110
Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey	59 58
Standard Oil Co. of New York	43 43
Southern Pacific	127 120
Texas Corporation	66 60
United States Leather	42 43
United States Steel	183 182
Vacuum Oil	125 125
Willys Overland	27 27

## A GALA CONCERT.

## BY ITALIAN GRAND OPERA CO.

Lovers of music who visit the Star Theatre on Sunday at 3.15 p.m. are promised a rare treat when the principal artists of The Italian Grand Opera Company will give a gala concert. The programme given below is composed, for the greater part, of the most popular solos, duets, etc., of the operas already presented in Hong Kong and each item will be rendered under the baton of Maestro Castagnino.

Programme:

1. "Eranini" Signor Emanuele Cenelli
2. "Aida" Signor Rodini
3. "Flagellaci" Signor Reali
4. "Barbiere di Siviglia" Signor Ferlito
5. "Mignon" Signor Giacomo Puccini
6. "La Gioconda" Signor Giovannini
7. "Perle del Brasi" Signorina Eransini
8. "Utrona" Signorina Imponenti
9. "Pescatori di Perle" Signor Giletto
10. Selection from "Rusalka" Madame Henkina

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9. "Pescatori di Perle" Signor Giletto
10. Selection from "Rusalka" Madame Henkina

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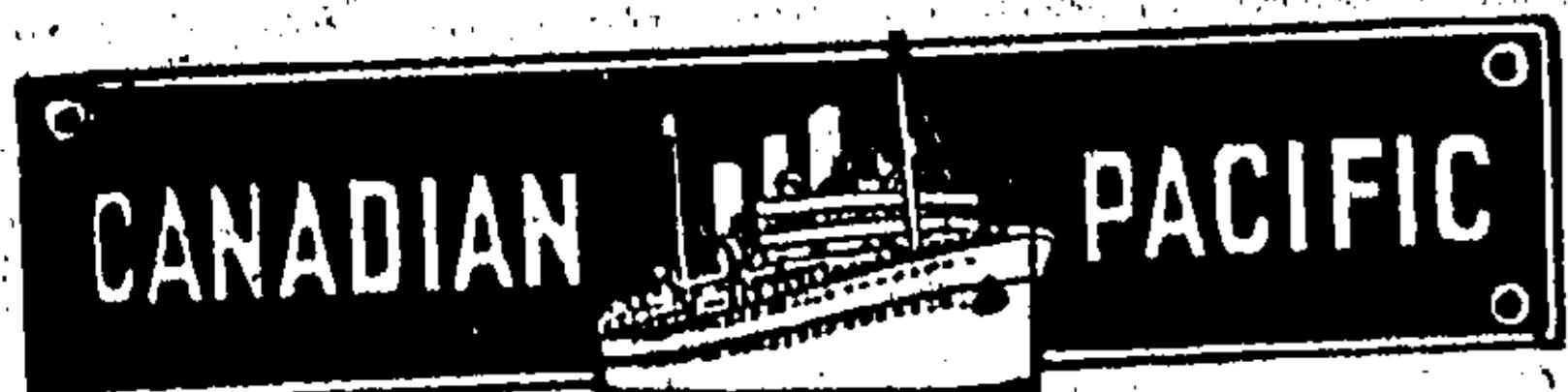
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Leave	May 15	May 18	May 21	May 23	June 1
Arrive	June 5	June 8	June 11	June 16	June 22
Empress of Asia	June 26	July 28	July 2	July 4	July 13
Empress of France	July 10	July 13	July 16	July 18	July 27
Empress of Russia	July 31	Aug. 3	Aug. 6	Aug. 8	Aug. 17
Empress of France	Aug. 21	Aug. 24	Aug. 27	Aug. 29	Sept. 8
Empress of Russia	Sept. 4	Sept. 7	Sept. 10	Sept. 12	Sept. 21
Empress of Asia	Sept. 26	Sept. 28	Oct. 1	Oct. 3	Oct. 12
Empress of France	Oct. 9	Oct. 12	Oct. 15	Oct. 17	Oct. 26
Empress of Russia	Oct. 30	Nov. 2	Nov. 5	Nov. 7	Nov. 16
Empress of Canada	Nov. 13	Nov. 16	Nov. 19	Nov. 21	Nov. 30
Empress of Russia	Nov. 27	Dec. 30	Dec. 3	Dec. 5	Dec. 14
Empress of Asia	Dec. 18	Dec. 21	Dec. 24	Dec. 26	Jan. 4

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D'ARTAGNAN ... 21st May.

SPHINX ... 4th June.

ANGERS ... 18th June.

G. METZINGER ... 2nd July.

ANDRE LEIRON ... 16th July.

PORTHOIS ... 30th July.

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#### DUKE'S ARRIVAL IN TOKYO.

#### EMPEROR EXTENDS A PERSONAL WELCOME.

TOKYO, May 2.

TOKYO was on this morning and a Royal Welcome awaited Prince Henry and his suite as the special train in which they had travelled up to the Capital from Yokohama drew up alongside the station platform. To the accompaniment of daylight fireworks bursting.

As the Prince stepped out to the strains of the British National Anthem, the Emperor himself came forward and shook his royal visitor warmly by the hand, while large numbers of high Japanese officials and others stood by bare-headed, bowing deeply in respectful silence.

After the Premier and principal members of the Cabinet, and other leading officials, had been presented, the Prince was conducted to a reception room from which, after a short rest, he proceeded to the station entrance where carriages and an escort of Guards' Cavalry awaited the Royal party. Prince Henry himself, with Prince Chichiba, entered a state coach drawn by six horses, while the members of his suite, headed by the Earl of Airlie, and the other members of the Japanese reception committee with Baron Hayashi as their chief, followed with the Master of Ceremonies in carriages each drawn by two horses.

Leaving the great open square in front of the station, the procession passed through the troop-lined streets which were gaily beflagged with the Rising Sun and Union Jack, to the Kasumigaseki Palace, where the Royal party is to stay during its time in Tokyo, the Prince acknowledging the ovations given by the crowds.

Arrived at the Palace, the two princes and the British and Japanese officials accompanying them entered, and the escort of lancers, after a final salute, wheeled round and made their way back to their quarters.

To-morrow Prince Henry with his suite will proceed to the Imperial Palace to invest the Emperor with the insignia of the Garter, but for the rest of to-day no further official functions are on the programme.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Reception to Pressmen.

TOKYO, May 2.

The morning papers, welcoming the Duke of Gloucester, assert that alliance or no alliance, Japan's friendship toward England has not altered. The newspapers print messages of welcome from Baron Tanaka and the Mayor of Tokyo expressing, inter alia, gratification at the recovery of H. M. King George.

A personal reception to Pressmen was given by the Duke of Gloucester, who requested them to express to the Japanese people his thanks for their welcome and specially, thanks for their sympathy in King George's illness. The Duke of Gloucester

emphasised that the bonds of long-standing Anglo-Japanese friendship were bound to continue owing to their common ideals, "foremost among which were their deep loyalty and determined love for peace."—Reuter.

#### CHINA AND JAPAN.

#### SHANTUNG WITHDRAWAL.

TOKYO, May 2.

The National Government of China has submitted details of plans for the maintenance of peace and order in Shantung after the Japanese withdrawal.

The situation will not be affected, it is stated, by the withdrawal of Marshal Feng's troops from Shantung, as Nanking forces will be drafted to take their place.

The Japanese military chiefs have, therefore, decided to complete their arrangements for the withdrawal of Japanese troops from Shantung by May 27th.

The Chief of the General Staff has informed the Emperor to this effect.—Reuter.

Agreement Signed.

NANKING, May 2.

Following a conference between Dr. Wang and Mr. Yoshizawa this morning, an agreement for the settlement of the Nanking and Hankow incidents was signed.

The spokesman of the Foreign Ministry stated that the Nanking agreement was practically similar to the Sino-British and Sino-American accords; while the Hankow agreement differed in many respects from both the Nanking and Tsinan affairs.

Dr. Wang and Mr. Yoshizawa discussed the revision of the Sino-Japanese commercial treaty and the Prince's arrival, he himself, with Prince Chichiba, entered a state coach drawn by six horses, while the members of his suite, headed by the Earl of Airlie, and the other members of the Japanese reception committee with Baron Hayashi as their chief, followed with the Master of Ceremonies in carriages each drawn by two horses.

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Reception to Pressmen.

TOKYO, May 2.

Despite the raising of the arms embargo on China, and regardless of the action of other Powers hereafter, the United States announces that it will maintain a strict embargo on such shipments in future.

This course is described as "an example to the other Powers," and an extension to the Far East of the policy already successfully applied in Mexico.

The only arms and munitions allowed in ships bound for China are those authorised by the Chinese National Government.—Reuter's American Service.

American Continues the Ban.

WASHINGTON, May 2.

Since the raising of the arms embargo on China, and regardless of the action of other Powers hereafter, the United States announces that it will maintain a strict embargo on such shipments in future.

In a cabled reply to Mr. Stimson, he says the only basis for such an allegation was a unanimous rejection of a certain Soviet amendment on a point of order. Mr. Gibson adds that the whole Commission made it clear that in rejecting this amendment, its position with regard to reduction was in nowise prejudiced.—Reuter's American Service.

Animated Discussion.

GENEVA, May 2.

An animated discussion was held by the Disarmament Committee on two proposals for the limitation of war materials, firstly a German one providing for direct limitation through a table showing stocks of arms, and secondly a French one suggesting that budgetary estimates provide an indication of reserve war materials.

Viscount Sato (Japan), Signor De Marinis (Italy), the Czechoslovak and Yugoslav delegates favoured the latter proposal; while the Swedish delegate favoured direct limitation, which Mr. Gibson is reported to have also said he preferred.—Reuter.

#### PACIFIC SCIENCE CONGRESS.

#### DELEGATES ON HARUNA MARU.

TOKYO, May 2.

Carrying practically a full list of passengers, among whom are the Japanese and American delegates to the Pacific Science Conference to be held at Batavia from May 16 to 25, the N. Y. K. s.s. Haruna Maru, bound for Europe, is due here this morning.

Those in the Japanese delegation are all prominent scientists. Among them are Marquis and Lady Y. Tokugawa, Marquis N. Kuroda, Viscount A. Tanaka, Prof. M. Miyoshi, and Dr. H. Hattori, advisor to H. I. J. M's Scientific Research.

America is also well represented,

those chosen being Dr. T. W. Vaughan, Professor in the University of California, Dr. Coville, Dr. and Mrs. Cooke and several others who have already passed through Hongkong or are on their way to Batavia for the Conference.

The Haruna Maru will be joined here by Dr. and Mrs. Edward M. Ehrhorn, of Honolulu, who arrived here by the s.s. Korea Maru some time ago. Dr. Ehrhorn is also attending the Pacific Science Conference.

Other interesting passengers on board the s.s. Haruna Maru going to Europe are H. E. Senhor Jose da Costa Carneiro, the Portuguese Minister to Tokyo, accompanied by Lady Carneiro, and Mr. and Mrs. Weser. Mr. Weser is the manager of Astor House Hotel, Shanghai.

The Haruna Maru is due to leave Hongkong to-morrow for Singapore where those attending the Pacific Science Conference will disembark to continue on their journey to Batavia.

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Siberia Maru ..... Wednesday, 15th May.  
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LONDON, MARSEILLES, ANTWERP & ROTTERDAM via  
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Haruna Maru (Calls Hull) ..... Saturday, 18th May.  
Kamo Maru ..... Saturday, 22nd May.  
SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila & Ports.  
Kaga Maru ..... Wednesday, 26th May.  
Tango Maru ..... Wednesday, 20th June.  
BOMBAY via Singapore, Penang & Colombo. Saturday, 11th May.  
Tomba Maru ..... Tuesday, 28th May.  
Penang Maru ..... Tuesday, 28th May.  
SOUTH AMERICA (WEST COAST) via Japan, Honolulu.  
Los Angeles, Mexico & Panama. Thursday, 30th May.  
Ginyo Maru ..... Thursday, 30th May.  
SOUTH AMERICA (EAST COAST) via Singapore.  
Capetown & Ports. Monday, 6th May.  
Hakata Maru ..... Sunday, 12th May.  
NEW YORK via PANAMA. Sunday, 12th May.  
Tsuyama Maru ..... Sunday, 12th May.  
LIVERPOOL via Port Said, Genoa & Marseilles. Tuesday, 21st May.  
Toyosaka Maru ..... Tuesday, 21st May.  
CALCUTTA via Singapore, Penang & Rangoon. Wednesday, 8th May.  
Malacca Maru ..... Wednesday, 8th May.  
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Morioke Maru (Moji Direct) ..... Saturday, 4th May.  
Tsuruga Maru ..... Thursday, 9th May.  
Kamakura Maru (Moji Direct) ..... Friday, 10th May.  
Kashima Maru ..... Monday, 13th May.  
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S.S. "CITY OF SINGAPORE" ..... via Suez Canal 14th June.  
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## THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

(Continued from Page 2.)

able all possible means of storage on this side. The Government as the Council knows is not putting forward this Aberdeen scheme as a substitute for that portion of the Shing Mun scheme which involved the bringing of Shing Mun water to Hongkong. We are pushing ahead with the Shing Mun scheme as fast as we can. Increased storage on the mainland is being provided in the new Kowloon Baywash Reservoir, the actual construction of which should commence at a very early date, and the Waterworks Engineer is, we hope, already engaged in final discussions with the Consulting Engineers as to the design of the pipeline. At the same time preliminary investigations are in hand for further storage on the upper reaches of the Shing Mun River. The Aberdeen scheme is, so far as Hongkong Island is concerned, supplementary to the Shing Mun scheme and will be of the utmost value in securing improved supply to the Western end of the city which, in times of drought, is always the worst sufferer.

### Charged to Loan Funds.

Honourable members will notice a discrepancy between the estimated cost of \$2,627,000 given in the Sessional Paper and the figure of \$2,702,000 given in my resolution. This represents the difference between the estimated and the actual cost of the necessary resumptions. The estimated time necessary for completion of the Aberdeen scheme is three years, so that if this resolution is approved we ought to obtain the benefits of the scheme in 1932. I need hardly remind Honourable members that this scheme is strongly recommended by the Director of Public Works and the Waterworks Engineer in the reports published in Sessional Paper No. 4 of 1928.

Coming now to the question of finance, the Government is satisfied that waterworks schemes of this magnitude are not a fair charge on the current revenue of the Colony and has secured the approval of the Secretary of State to charge the cost of the Aberdeen scheme to Loan Funds. The present public works loan will, however, be more than fully expended in paying for the first section of the Shing Mun scheme, the construction of the Kai Tak Aerodrome and the Harbour Dredging. It will, therefore, be necessary to charge the Aberdeen scheme and the extensions of the Shing Mun scheme to a further loan which will be raised at a future date. For the present we shall be able to advance the necessary money from the surplus funds of the Colony which will later on be reimbursed from loan funds. It is estimated that the amount which will be required for expenditure during the current financial year is \$655,000 the greater part of which will be spent on resumptions.

I now formally move the resolution standing in my name and trust it will meet with the unanimous approval of the Council.

### Unofficials Approve.

Hon. Sir Shou-sen Chow: As the senior Unofficial member for the time being, I beg to second the resolution. The explanations given by the Hon. Colonial Secretary are so full that it will be unnecessary for me to add anything to them beyond explaining that since Your Excellency's return to the Colony, the Unofficial members have had a full discussion of the whole question of the supply with you, and have been convinced that whatever water

you may be able to bring across from Kowloon, we ought to proceed simultaneously with the Aberdeen water scheme, which will secure an improved supply to the Island and especially to the inhabitants of the Western end of the city who, in times of a water shortage, suffer the most. The Unofficial members agree with Your Excellency that this work is more properly chargeable to Loan Funds than to current revenue.

His Excellency the Governor: I am very glad to find that the Official and Unofficial members are of one mind in this matter.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

## THE HONGKONG BANK.

### Bill Introduced to Amend Constitution.

Hon. Mr. W. E. L. Shenton moved the first reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance to amend the constitution of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Hon. Mr. A. C. Hynes seconded and the Bill was read a first time.

### Adjournment.

His Excellency the Governor: Next Thursday, I understand, is the eclipse of the sun. I do not know whether any member will wish to see it. The Council will not sit on Thursday next, but will now adjourn for a fortnight.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

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Co., Ltd., where delivery can be

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landed.

No claims will be admitted after

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all goods remaining undelivered

after the 8th May, 1929, at 4 p.m.

will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged

goods are to be left in the Godown,

where they will be examined by

Messrs. Anderson and Ashe on the

8th May, 1929, at 10 a.m.

All claims against the vessel must

be presented to the Undersigned

before the 11th May, 1929, or they

will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

Bills of Lading will be counter-

signed by

JOHN MANNERS & CO., LTD., Agents.

Hongkong, 1st May, 1929.

LLOYD TRIESTINO NAVIGATION COMPANY.

The Chartered Steamship,

#### "ROSANDRA".

arrived from Trieste and Ports on

27th April, 1929, and in consequence

of fire on board whilst en route to

the Far East, consignees of cargo

are hereby notified that a General

Average has been declared. It is,

therefore, necessary for the Average Bond to be signed, and a deposit of

25 per cent paid on the market value of

the goods on arrival.

All goods are being landed at

consignees' risk into the non-hazardous

hazardous and/or extra hazardous

godowns of the Hongkong and

Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd.,

at Kowloon, whence delivery may be

obtained.

All damaged cargo will be examined

by Messrs. Goddard and Douglas on

1st May, 1929, at 10 a.m.

No claims will be admitted after

the goods have left the godown and

all goods remaining undelivered

after the 3rd May 1929 will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be counter-

signed by

DODWELL & CO., LTD., Agents.

Hongkong, 27th April, 1929.

LLOYD TRIESTINO NAVIGATION COMPANY.

The Motor Vessel,

#### "ROMOLO".

arrived from Trieste and ports on

27th April, 1929, and in consequence

of fire on board whilst loading at

Trieste, consignees of cargo are here-

by notified that a General Average

has been declared. It is, therefore,

necessary for the Average Bond to be

signed, and a deposit of 2 per cent

paid on the market value of the goods

on arrival.

All goods are being landed at

consignees' risk into the non-hazardous

hazardous and/or extra hazardous

godowns of the Hongkong and

Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd.,

at Kowloon, whence delivery may be

obtained.

No claims will be admitted after

the goods have left the godown and

all goods remaining undelivered

after the 3rd May 1929 will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

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